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Pastor Bill Crabtree ~ Pastor Jonathan Sansgaard ~ Music Director Justin Cormier

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

Welcome to worship! All the elements of our worship are projected but they are also printed here in this bulletin (with music) for you. No one is an audience here today; we are all participants in worship where God gives us the blessings of Christ Jesus and we pour out our praise to God. In the entry there are activity bags for young worshippers.

*Assistive Listening is now available – You can use it with the provided devices and headphones, and it is compatible with your smartphone and hearing aids. Simply download the Listen Everywhere app on your phone and connect to the server.*



**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

**C:** Amen.

**P:** Let us prepare for the coming of our Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**P:** God of all time and space,

**C:** we confess that we have become self-centered, apathetic to your promises, and inattentive to our neighbors. We have done things in our own self interest and neglected to do the things that lead to healing and reconciliation. We continue to love darkness rather than light. In your mercy, forgive us. Shine the light of Christ once again into the dark places of our lives and of the world, that we may be opened to receive your light and seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

**P:** Comfort, O comfort my people, says our God. In the name of + Jesus Christ, and by his authority, your sins are forgiven and you are made whole again. Rejoice in the good news!

**C:** Amen.

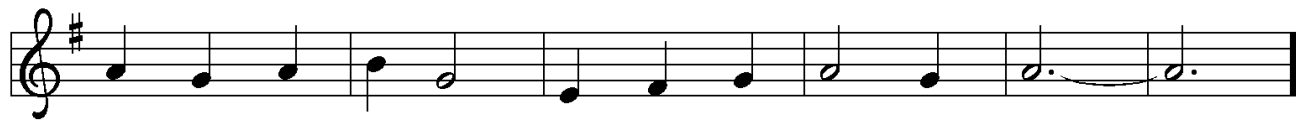
## Advent Wreath Litany Christ Be Our Light (vs 4)



4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for



warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,



shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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## Wreath Lighting Prayer

**L:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe. The Angels proclaimed good tidings of great joy to Mary, Joseph, and to the Shepherds. As we light the fourth candle, we pray that we too might receive this overflowing of love as Christ is born again in our hearts today. And in our words and deeds, may we join with the angel chorus as they announce your love come down to earth.

**C:** Amen

**Repeat Refrain of "Christ Be Our Light"**

## Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

L: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

*(Please be seated)*

## Children's Sermon

Kid's Word *(11am only)*

## THE WORD

### First Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

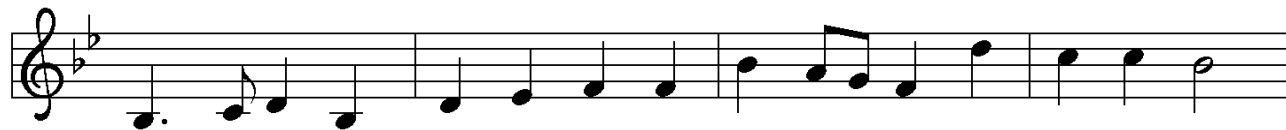
<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,  
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5a</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Acclamation** *(Please Stand)*



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

R: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 1st Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

**Gospel**

**Luke 1:39-55**

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." [

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
50 His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
51 He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;  
53 he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.  
54 He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*(Please be seated)*

**Sermon**                    **“Contagious Praise”**                    **Pastor Jonathan Sansgaard**

*(After a brief period of reflection, please stand for the hymn of the day)*

# Hymn of the Day

# My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!  
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.  
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;

You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.  
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.  
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.

Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—  
 The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;  
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,

great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.  
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.  
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat  
 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958  
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
 Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

## Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy \*catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*(\*the whole Christian Church)*

## Prayers of the Church

L: ...Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

## Sharing of the Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you all

C: And also with you.

*(Please be seated following Sharing of the Peace)*

## Community Time

### The Offering

*Please pass the black friendship pads down the pew.*

*If you are a guest we would love to send you a thank you for worshiping with us; please provide your email or address.*



Ways to support our mission and ministry:

Scan this QR Code with your phone to go to our donate page:

<https://secure.subsplash.com/ui/access/WMSJVT#/>

OR Text the amount you want to give to 1-888-364-GIVE.

### Offering Music “Magnificat” *By M. Roger Holland II*

### Offering Response “What Child is This” (vs 3)

3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.

The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898  
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.



## Offering Prayer

L: Blessed are you,

C: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we proclaim your word and care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

### The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



### Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Institution

P: In the night ... in remembrance of me.

## The Lord's Prayer (All)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

*(Please be seated)*



*All Baptized Christians are welcome to join with us in this meal where we believe the true body and blood of Christ are present in, with, and under the bread and wine/juice. You will be ushered forward and there will be three tables of communion in the front of the sanctuary. You will be given a piece of bread or gluten free wafer by a pastor or lay leader. On the table you will have a choice of using the chalice for intinction or a small cup of wine or juice. If you choose to use the cup, then dispose it in the baskets. Adults who do not receive the Supper or children who have not received First Communion instruction can come forward for a blessing. If you have not been baptized, one of our pastors would welcome a conversation with you about Baptism.*

## Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

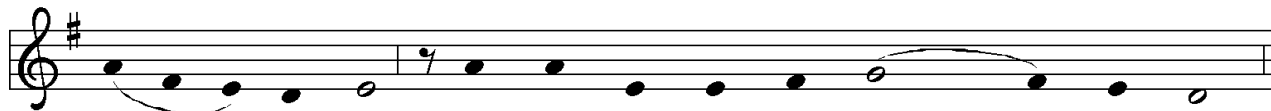


you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

# Communion Hymn O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
 and open wide our heav'nly home;  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
 O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
 refresh the hearts that long for you;  
 restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
 and ransom captive Israel,  
 that mourns in lonely exile here  
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.  
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

*(Please Stand)*

## Post Communion Prayer

L: God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when you will fill the hungry with wondrous things. Send us forth to make known the grace which we have received through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

## Benediction

P: May God the Father clothe us in light;  
May Christ Jesus fill us with hope;  
And may the Holy Spirit prepare us  
for the coming day of the Lord.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

C: Amen

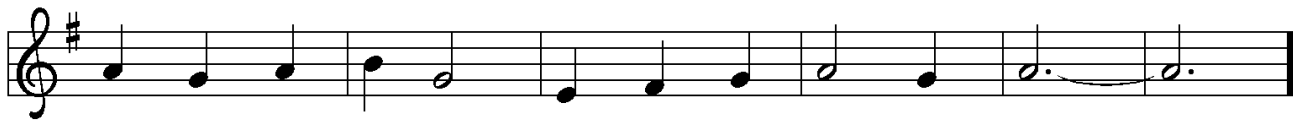
## Sending Hymn Christ Be Our Light (vs 5)



5 Man - v the gifts, man - v the peo - ple, man - v the



hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

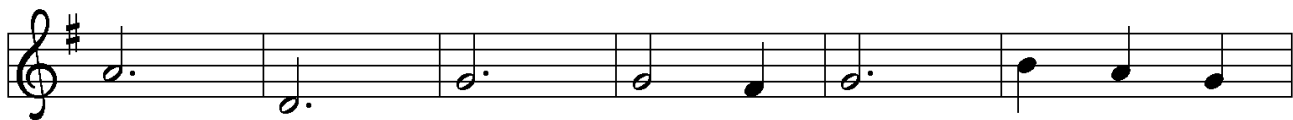


to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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## **Dismissal**

**L:** We are grace filled,

**C:** and Spirit Led!

**L:** Go in peace, connected to Christ.

**C:** Thanks be to God!

## **Postlude**

**Special Thanks:** Sanctuary Choir

### **This Week's Worship Leaders December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Preaching:** Pastor Jonathan Sansgaard | **Presiding:** Pastor Bill Crabtree

**December Altar Care:** Barb Pennington, Betty Koster

Beth Adams and family.

**Liturgists:** (8:30am) Brian Humm (11:00) Jenny Grenfell

**Communion Assistants:** (8:30 am) Lisa & Jeff Ottenbacher, Rick Cotter

(11:00 am) Kelley Sutherland, Georgann Thomas

**Readers:** (8:30 am) Stephanie Taft (11:00 am)

### **Next Week's Readings: December 29<sup>th</sup>**

**John 1:1-9, 10-18, Ephesians 1:3-14, Jeremiah 31:7-14**

**As you read the lesson, ask yourself two questions:**

**Why was this story told? Where do you see God at work?**

**Prayer and Care:** Linda Mason recovering from open heart surgery. Joyce Barry recovering from back surgery. Dave Ryan in hospice care. Melissa Tippetts renewing treatment and awaiting bone marrow transplant.

**Recovering from illness/surgery:** Darlene Gillies, Hedrick Hueneke and Chuck McClung

**Facing Cancer:** Rudy Burress, Elizabeth Domahidy, Julie Enger, Steven Hudock, Kay Kersten, Merrill Koster, Ron Maddux, Jim Piatt, George Roberts, Dave Rosinbum, Amelia Seagrave, Laurie Shaw, Lisa Stephens, David Trexler, Joanne Wales and Jim Weisbrodt.

**Deployed & Military Support & Their Families:** Jared Cain, Rebecca Mackey, Andrew Quam, David Wooten and all their families.

**Continued Prayer:** Hilma Bridges, Bob Brien, Bob Cummings, Don Budden, Ace Edwards, Randy Fossum, Gene Gierke, Joe Gierke, Jerry Gray, Dawn Hamrick, Sharron Lindkvist, Jean Locke, Barb Manbeck, Cheryl Miller, Gerry Randall, Webb Rhodes, Jean Sherbesman, June Stocks, and Tom Taft.

Remembering all who are homebound or in ill health.



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